

MINUTES
SUBSEQUENT ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING
TOWN OF ELLINGTON
JUNE 7, 2006

First Selectman Michael Stupinski called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. and then asked for nominations for a moderator.

Mr. Robert Pagani nominated Attorney Atherton B. Ryan as moderator. Motion seconded by Ann Harford. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Stupinski asked for a vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Ryan then read the warning for the meeting, a copy of which is included in these minutes.

Mr. Robert Pagani then made a motion to appropriate upon the recommendation of, and as allocated by, the Board of Finance the total sum for all expenditures, a/k/a budget grand total for the fiscal year 2006-2007 the sum of \$39,189,991. Motion seconded by Al Wachsman.

Mr. Stupinski then moved to adjourn the Town Meeting to a Referendum to be held Wednesday June 14, 2006 at the Ellington High School 37 Maple St. from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. with one question: **"Shall the Town of Ellington appropriate upon the recommendation of, and as allocated by, the Board of Finance the total sum for all expenditures, a/k/a budget grand total for the fiscal year 2006-2007 the sum of \$39,189,991."** Motion seconded by Mr. Ed Wysocki. No one sought discussion. Vote by voice. Motion passes.

Several residents chose to leave the meeting at this time.

Discussion began on the budget.

Mr. Pagani gave a brief explanation of what cuts were made by the Board of Finance last night, including:

- Brookside Park Fencing: \$29,400.
- Police Cruiser: \$31,215.
- Fire Dept. Hose Upgrade: \$10,000.
- Board of Education back lot fencing at EHS: \$27,600.
- Board of Education dual fuel burners at EHS: \$40,000.
- Board of Education track restoration at EHS: \$39,000.
- Town Clerk's salary account: \$10,000.
- Building Inspector's overtime account: \$3,000.
- GIS Program: \$30,000.

The Board of Finance added back \$3,215. to the Police Dept. for laptop computers for the cruisers.

This gave a total of \$217,000. in cuts made last night at the Board of Finance meeting.

There were several residents who stated that it was important to pass this budget. They felt it was balanced and that it was necessary to support education and our children. Some felt that any further cuts could eliminate some town services that are necessary. Many residents commended the Board of Finance for their efforts.

Those residents who were against the proposed budget were very concerned about the high percent of tax increases largely due to the recent revaluation. Some residents were concerned about the revaluation process. Many said they could not support the increase.

Mr. Ryan then asked for those who had specific questions on the budget to speak.

After hearing no further questions, Mr. Peter Hany made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Motion was seconded by Mr. Cliff Aucter. Motion passes.

Respectfully submitted:


Diane H. McKeegan, Town Clerk

Received for record: 6/13/06 @ 2:45pm